**GARSINGTON PARIS****H COUNCIL (DRAFT MINUTES)**

The Monthly Meeting of the Parish Council was held in the Village Hall on Monday 4th September 2017 at 7.30pm. The Chair was Cllr Chris Wright, present were Cllrs Anne Eastwood, Mike Patrick, Judy Westgate, Paul Bolam, District Cllr Elizabeth Gillespie (arrived 8.20pm), with L Stevenson in attendance.

60 Members of the public were present.

9/17/1 Apologies for Absence

Cllr Matthew Dovey – work commitments

Cllr Ian Dickinson – work commitments

Cllr Richard Betteridge – holiday

County Cllr Lorraine Lyndsay-Gale – attending another meeting

9/17/2 Declarations of Interest

None

9/17/3 Public Participation

A resident suggested that details of the County Council fix my street website be put into the Newsletter.

A resident raised the matter of road humps. Now that most cars were larger, humps had little or no impact on the speed of the traffic, they have not been maintained since installation and could the Parish Council arrange for these humps to be removed. Cllr Chris Wright stated that a detailed survey was done at the time the humps were installed which showed that the traffic speed was reduced, although no survey had been done recently or historic comparisons done. Cllr Paul Bolam noted that if there were smaller cars on the roads these would slow the traffic down anyway as they needed to slow down to negotiate the humps. A resident stated that the humps created vibration in their building when cars pass over them. Cllr Paul Bolam stated that measurements were taken at the time to determine the impact on housing near the humps, and it was found that they did not affect the buildings. Cllr Chris Wright suggested that the Parish Council could ask the County Council to take vibration measurements and asked those residents who were concerned to leave their details with the Clerk. He also added that as reflected by other matters discussed in the meeting, the Parish Council does find it hard to achieve action from the County Council unless the Parish contributes financially towards projects.

A resident asked if speed cameras had been considered at the time of the ramps by the Parish Council. Cllr Chris Wright responded that the Parish Council does have a mobile unit that is moved around the village. The Parish Council had been exploring cameras that also take registration numbers. These are very costly pieces of equipment. If the parish wanted more of this kind of technology, then the parish precept - one of the lowest in the County - would need to be increased considerably.

A resident suggested putting the speed limit on the road surface. Cllr Paul Bolam stated that these had been installed, but again had not been repaired over time.

The meeting heard a short presentation from the Kiln Lane Action Group of the situation so far. The group voiced concerns about the number of vehicles present, the cutback of the vegetation along Kiln Lane, whether planning conditions had been discharged and the time limit of temporary planning permission before it turned permanent.

Several members of the parish stated their views. District Cllr Elizabeth Gillespie accepted their concerns and stated that the District Council was controlled by the policies of central government, they are concerned to protect the greenbelt, but Gypsies and Travellers are protected under EU law as a vulnerable group. Also, that planning enforcement is a lengthy process. The planning application of Plot 8 is due to go to Planning Committee on 9th October. At this meeting, members of the committee will now be aware of the special circumstances surrounding the case. Plot 9 will also be heard at that meeting. District Cllr Elizabeth Gillespie encouraged parish residents to attend this meeting.

Several residents brought up various anti-social behaviour matters of concern to them and the possibility of the Kiln Lane area becoming a permanent Traveller site in Garsington. District Cllr Elizabeth Gillespie stated that over the last 2 years there had only been 2 reports of anti-social behaviour passed to the Police. District Cllr Elizabeth Gillespie went on to state that 2 Traveller sites had been identified for inclusion in the Local Plan. Cllr Chris Wright stated that the Parish Council had at last received a reply from John Cotton the Leader of SODC to say that once the identified sites in the Local Plan were up and running, temporary planning permission would no longer be given. Cllr Chris Wright asked what could trigger a site to become permanent in a legal sense and could District Cllr Elizabeth Gillespie help in this matter.

Cllr Chris Wright also added that at the planning committee, a view has to be taken by the committee over the balance of the needs of the family on one side and the harm to the green belt on the other.

Cllr Chris Wright wished to thank all the members of the parish for coming to give their views and also thanked District Cllr Elizabeth Gillespie for working so hard on behalf of the village and encouraged residents to attend the planning committee meeting in October. He also noted that the attendance list of the evening will be put forward as evidence of concern amongst the village.

9/17/4 Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 7th August 2017

The minutes were agreed and signed.

9/17/5 Matters Arising from the Minutes not covered elsewhere on the Agenda

Item 8/17/7 - Cllr Mike Patrick informed the meeting that the Village Hall Management Committee had met to consider the placing of solar panels on the roof of the Village Hall and were in favour although there is a restriction on which side of the roof the panels could be put. The Parish Council agreed to help the Village Hall Committee raise the grant, but the Village Hall Management Committee would need to put in the planning permission.

Item 8/17/3 – Cllr Anne Eastwood had met with County Cllr Lorraine Lyndsay-Gale about the pot holes in Oxford Road. Keith Stenning and the Area Drainage Team are now involved and this is now considered by the Area Drainage Team to be high priority. Cllr Mike Patrick informed the meeting that a cyclist had fallen and been injured there on a Sunday. Cllr Anne Eastwood had informed the County Council that any accidents were their responsibility as this matter had been raised at the last 3 Parish Council Meetings. Cllr Anne Eastwood agreed to contact County Cllr Lorraine Lyndsay-Gale again if no action is taken.

Item 8/17/13 – Yellow lines gap in Pettiwell. Cllr Chris Wight informed the meeting that the gap was now completed and fines had been placed by the Police on cars which had parked on the lines.

Item 8/17/11 – the ramp at Elm Drive. The Clerk reported that she needed Cllr Richard Betteridge to help on his return to advise on suitable builders to approach for this project.

Cllr Judy Westgate had been in contact with the previous Editor of the Newsletter as part of a handover.

Item 8/17/14 – Cllr Mike Patrick confirmed that if the silver birch tree in Combwell showed no sign of life by the Spring, then it would be replaced.

9/17/6 Oxford – Cambridge Expressway

District Cllr Elizabeth Gillespie stated that SODC have written to Lord Adonis to say that they favour the Northern route which is also the cheapest route. A meeting was held in Cuddesdon which County Cllr Lorraine Lyndsay-Gale and District Cllr Elizabeth Gillespie had attended to discuss the proposals and organise responses to send to Lord Adonis and John Armitt. The Parish Council had been invited but could not attend as at the same time as this meeting, but were keen to participate in this group.

9/17/7 County Councillor’s Report

This had previously been circulated, the Parish Council were disappointed not to see the County Cllr Lorraine Lyndsay-Gale at yet another meeting.

9/17/8 District Councillor’s Report

District Cllr Elizabeth Gillespie responded to matters raised during the meeting.

9/17/9 Finance

The District Cllr’s Grant of £1980.00 towards badger protection was signed.

The Clerk had received a request from the County Council Highways Department to send in an invoice for £198.23 for urban grass cutting services undertaken by the Parish Council on behalf of the County Council. This related to a contract which had been received by the Parish Council detailing services the County Council wished the Parish Council to take over. The Parish Council had previously queried this document and not signed it. As no answer had been forthcoming from the County legal department, the Parish Council agreed again not to sign the contract and so would not be putting in an invoice for the grass cutting. Instead, the parish would bear the cost of the urban grass cutting (£1050.00).

Balances and cheques for signature –

Barclays Current Account at end of August 2017 - £29,986.09

To note DD payment to Grundon for £46.14

Receipts – none

The following cheques were approved and signed

£465.40 – Clerk’s salary August

£471.22 – BGG for grass cutting in August – this cheque was not signed as there had been several complaints from residents over the quality of the cut in the churchyard and Parsler’s Piece. The Clerk was asked to contact the contractor to discuss the complaints.

9/17/10 Planning

P17/S2749/FUL – Land North of Oxford Road, Garsington – erection of 4 family dwellings and associated infrastructure

The Parish Council discussed this application and were unsatisfied with the access to and from the main road into the plot. The Parish Council felt that if this issue was resolved with the Highways Department, then they could support the application.

P17/S2963/HH – The Red Lion, 35 Oxford Road, Garsington – variation of condition 2 (on application P16/S0989/HH – alterations of appearance of extension and to include conversion of existing outbuildings to create a new office). Proposed 2 storey extension and alterations to existing dwelling. Excavation works to reduce land levels to rear of property and creation of a raised deck.

The Parish Council felt that the quality of the drawings were misleading and did not aid their decision and relied on a verbal explanation from the applicant. The Parish Council had no objections to this application.

9/17/11 Correspondence to Chairman and Clerk

The Clerk had received an email from Cleanslate Victim Support asking for a donation of £100.00 which had been circulated. The Parish Council requested The Clerk to contact the Charity Commission and County Council to find out more about this organisation.

9/17/12 Playground/Sports and Social Club

Cllr Paul Bolam reported that no further quotes had been received for weeding and replacing the bark on the aerial runway.

The repairs to fencing, the small gate and the lawnmower gate and painting of the tractor were still outstanding.

9/17/13 Village Maintenance

Old wall behind Old Stone Cross – The Clerk reported that written consent from the Secretary of State had not yet been received. Cllr Paul Bolam asked for the information from Historic England regarding conditions be sent on to him.

9/17/14 Policing/Speed Monitoring

No report received.

9/17/15 Village Bus Service

Nothing to report.

9/17/16 Burial Ground

Cllr Chris Wright had met with 2 of the archaeological contractors who had provided quotes to see if there was any leeway on their pricing. The matter of raising the level of the burial ground was discussed with the contractors. Cllr Anne Eastwood felt that the archaeological survey project was too expensive and the Parish did not have the amount of money required for this work. Cllr Anne Eastwood suggested that the new burial ground be fenced off to wait until it is needed as there was room in the current burial ground for at least 20 years. And in that time the old burial ground could begin to be re-used. Cllr Paul Bolam suggested using the new burial ground for ashes only as they require a shallower depth. Cllr Chris Wright noted that there was a time limit on the planning permission given and so the land would need to be used before that time. The Parish Council agreed not to accept any of the quotes from archaeological companies.

9/17/17 Neighbourhood Plans

Nothing to report.

9/17/18 Any Other Business

None

Meeting closed at 8.50pm